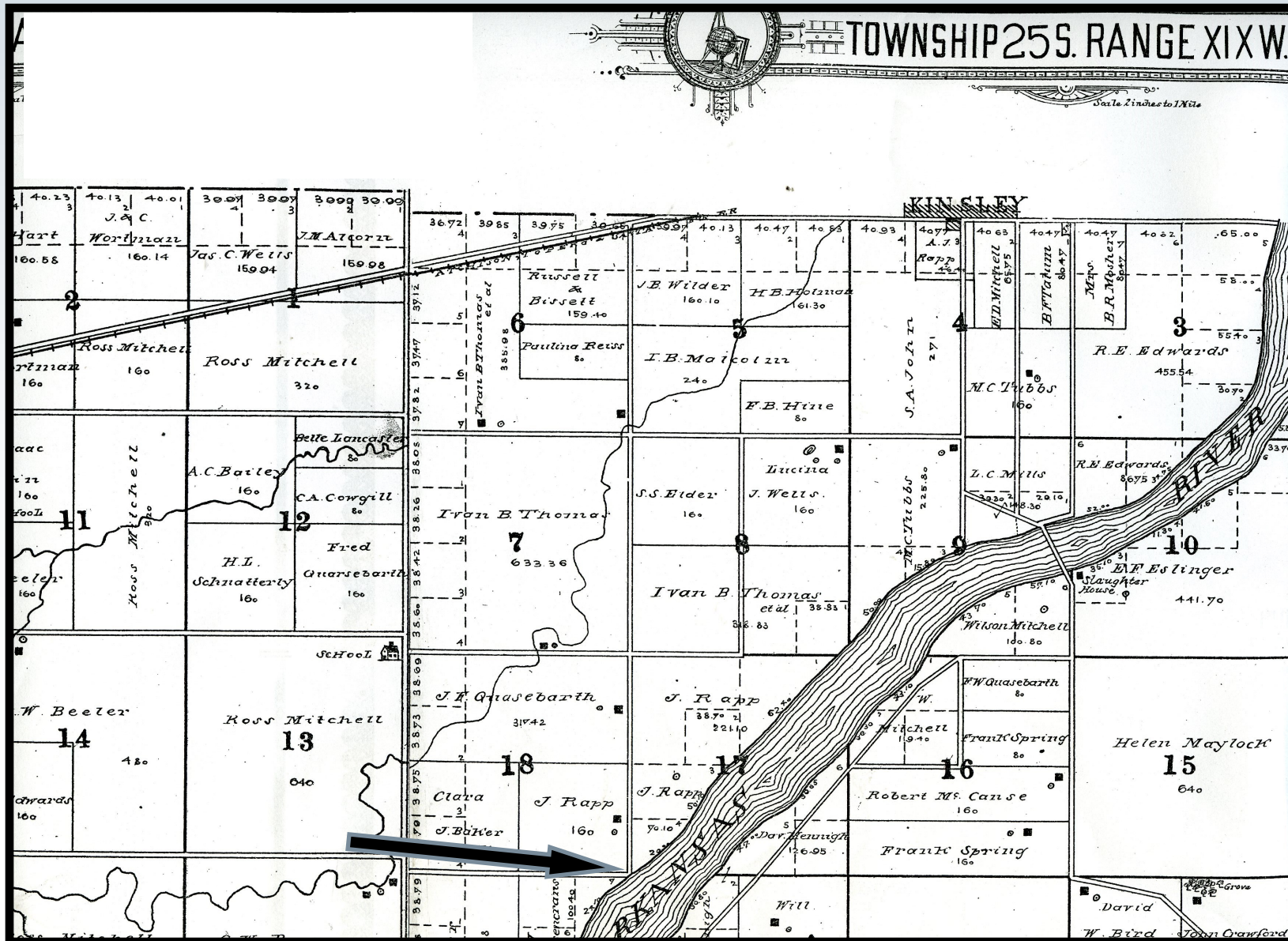


Brought the drought of the Dust Bowl Era

Canal Project Plans for Return of Rain

“It is a great need for the city to be protected from floods, and would have brought much work to men who need it.”



A plan to use Federal relief money administered by the National Recovery Administration would have put men to work during the Depression digging a 7,177 foot drainage canal between the Big Coon Creek and the Arkansas River.

The City Commissioners declined to get behind the project and the attempt failed.

A similar diversion project was suggested in 2002 but the Federal Emergency Management Agency determined the project would not adequately address the flooding concerns in the community and funding was not available.

Kinsley Graphic
August 24, 1933

CANAL PROJECT

County Engineer E. B. Johnson, County Commissioner Harry Bridges and Mr. Roy Hatfield returned from their trip to Hays, Salina and Topeka last Thursday afternoon.

They met the state advisory committee of the N. R. A. at Hays: Messrs Paulette, Snyder and Miller, had a conference with them there and later at Salina.

From Salina they went to Topeka hoping to be able to see State Highway Director Darby about the road projects planned by the county road committee. They were unable to see Mr. Darby, but had very satisfactory conference with plenty of time to present the needs of the county, and the soundness of their projects for federal relief money.

The canal draining Coon Creek into the Arkansas river to prevent the disastrous floods which have caused so much damage to property in the past was the first need presented.

Next was the use of \$10,000 on feeder roads, in the county outside of the highways touched by the resolution carried by the joint meeting of Kinsley and Lewis.

The N. R. A. was asked for \$15,-000 for the building of the canal from Coon creek to the Arkansas river as a hard and shovel job to give as much employment as possible to men registered for relief.

The beginning of the canal is planned near the Hite farm, north of the Beeler ranch running on the section line between sections 13 and 14, twp. 25, range 20, to where the creek intercepts the river due east on the section line between 18 and 19-25-19. It will hit the river in section 17, south of the Kallaus place.

The planned length is 7,177 feet, 40 feet wide at the top and 20 at the bottom, with the removal of 52,000 cubic yards of earth.

Kinsley has suffered much from floods and this is one of the most necessary things that could be done at this time.

County Engineer Johnson is working on blue prints which have to go to the committee, with estimates and it would not be possible to get things thru, he thinks, if it goes thru at all before October 1.

Kinsley Graphic
October 19, 1933

NEW PROJECTS PLANNED

County Engineer Johnson went to Topeka last week with part of the county commissioners to see Robert Paulette, engineer of the State Advisory NRA Commission.

They did not find him there, and came back to Salina.

To carry through the first plan, a most important one for the community, the drainage canal to prevent floods in Kinsley, the plan had to be 30-70, and the money borrowed from the government on the long time loan would have to be by the city; but the city commissioners declined to get behind the project. The loan called for was about ten thousand dollars with 30 years to run, at 4 percent.

It is a great need of the city to be protected from floods, and would have brought much work to men who need it.

